

University of Chester



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Title: Where have we come from? Where are we going to? Academic research on
cycling

Date: 21 September 2012

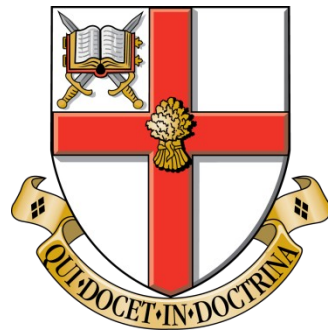
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Version of item: Given at conference

Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10034/554152>

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University of
Chester

Where have we come from?
Where are we going to?
Academic Cycling Research

1962

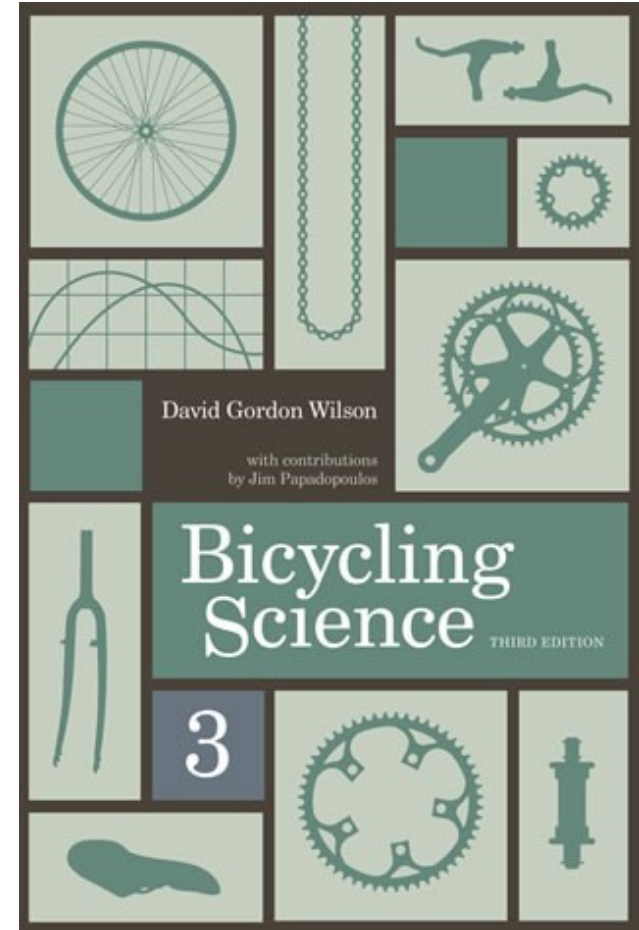
Testing the Moulton in Western Iceland



Engineering Research

A Sharp (1896) *Bicycles and tricycles a classic treatise on their design and construction*

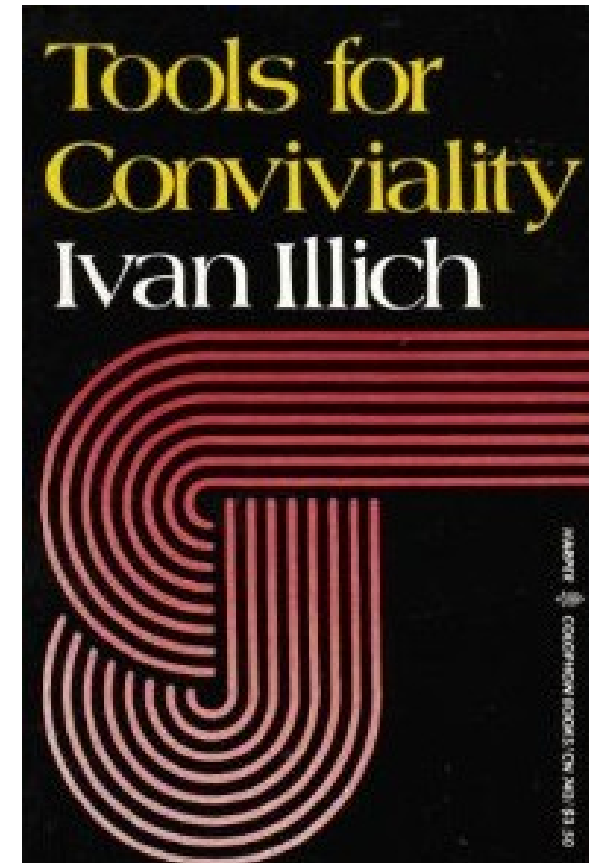
FR Whitt & DG Wilson
(1974) *Bicycling Science*
[2nd ed 1995; 3rd ed 2004]



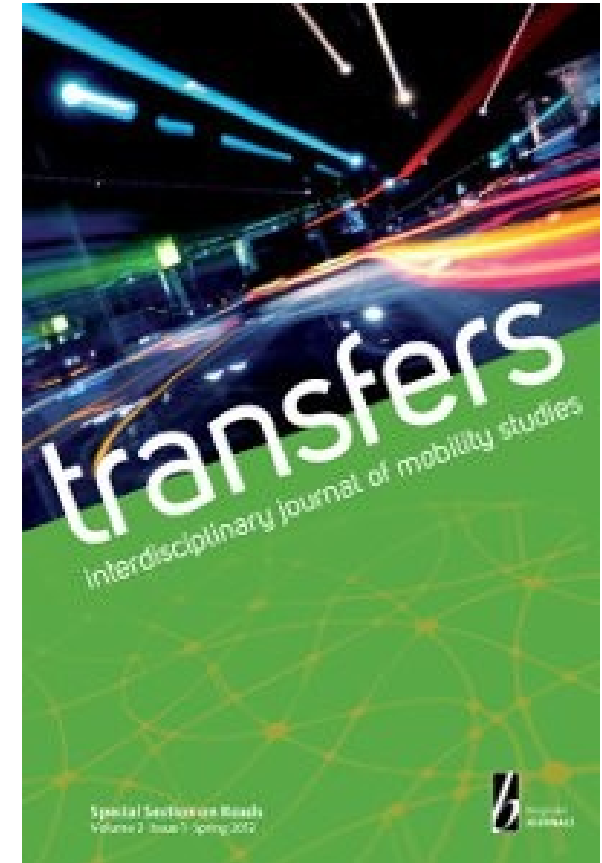
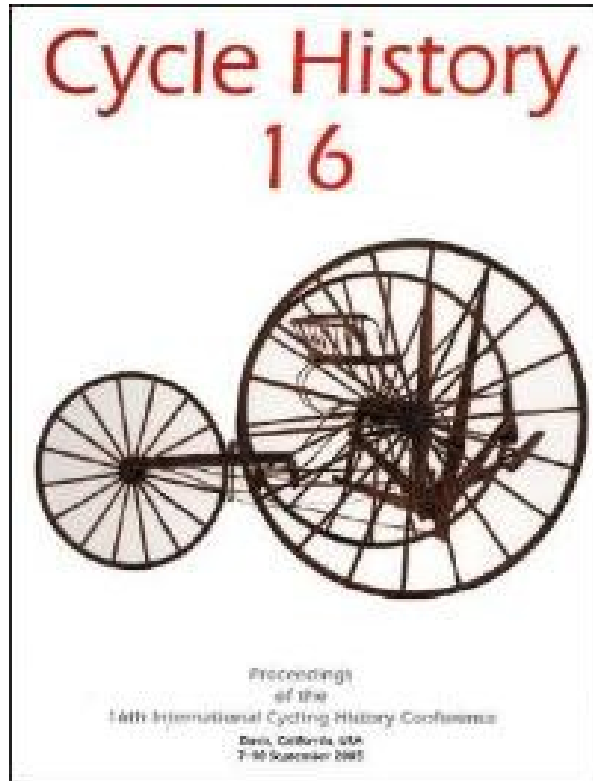
Modernity and Technology



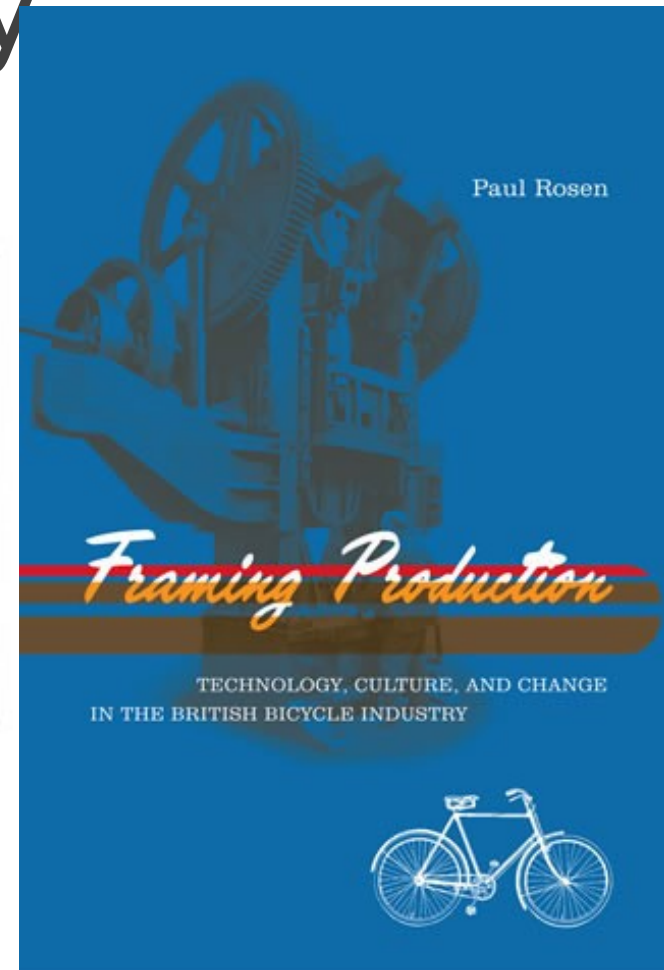
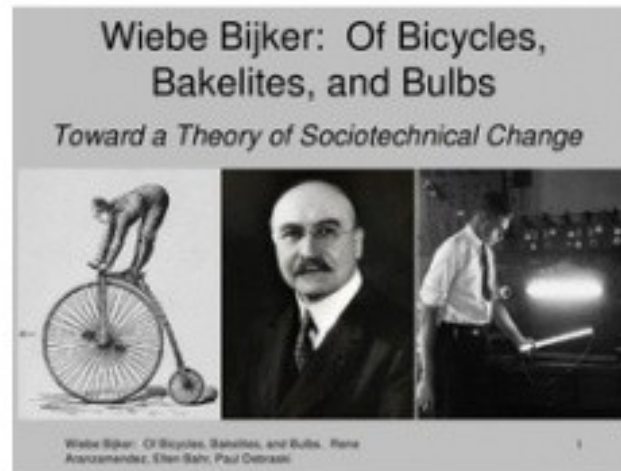
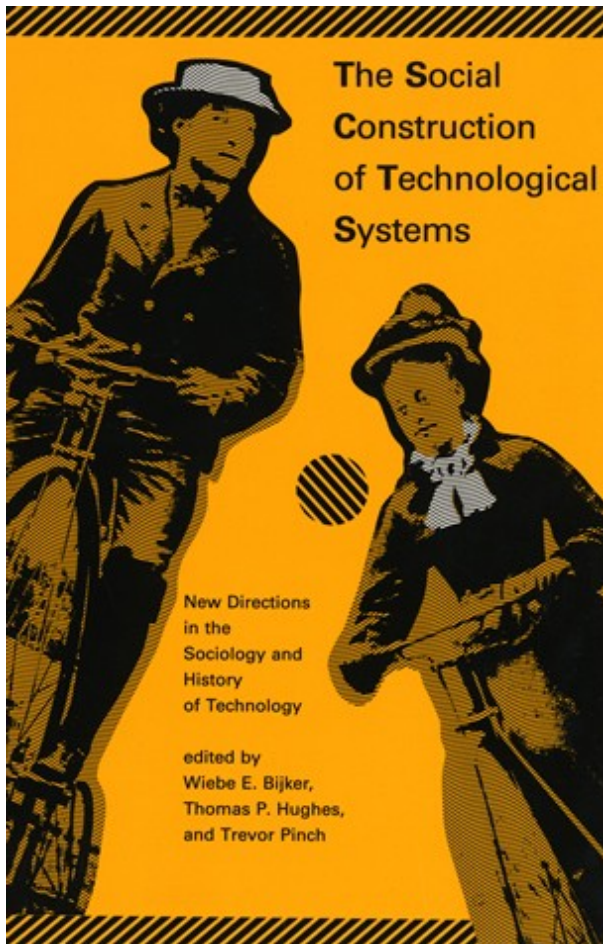
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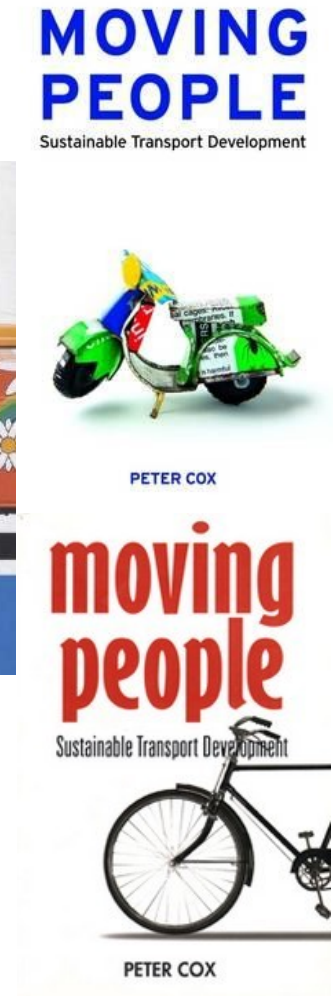
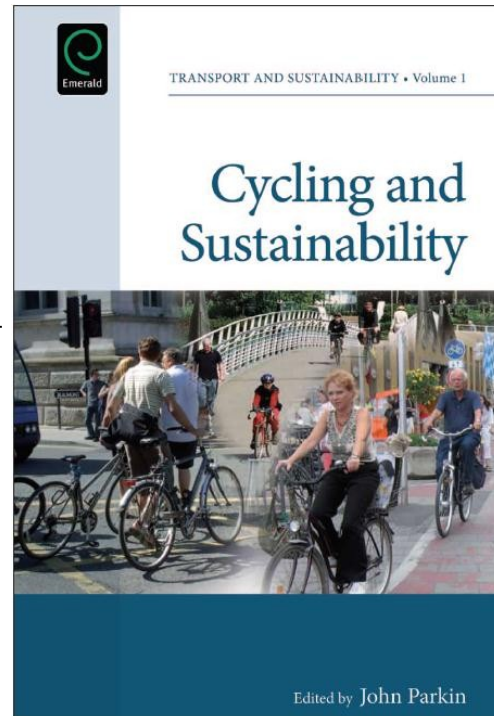
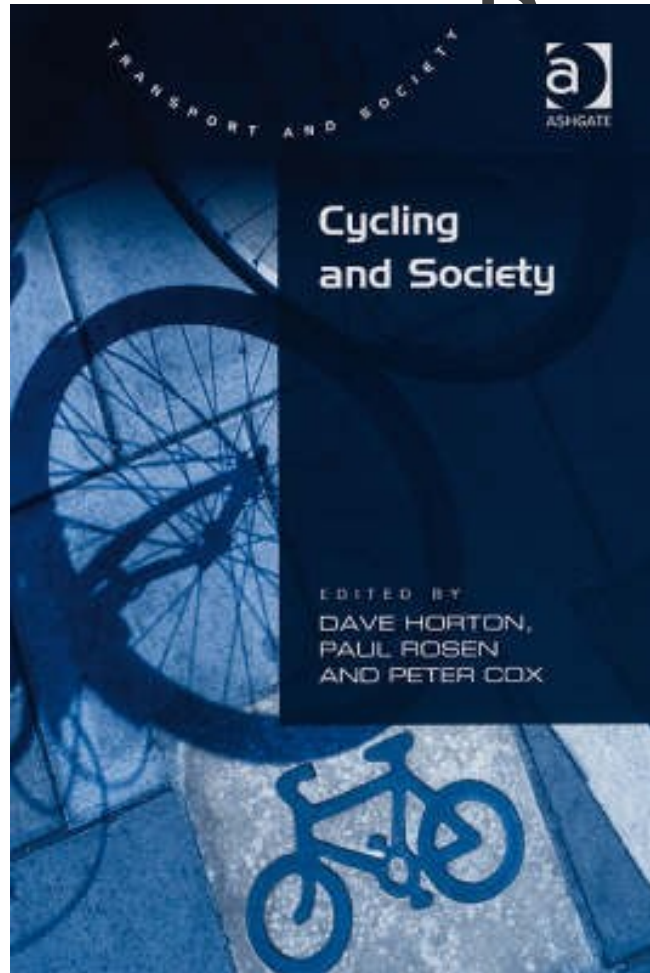
Transport and Mobility



Social Construction of Technology



Cycling and Society Research Group



Proliferating Networks

Scientists for Cycling

- ECF network as umbrella

For all those academics who want to support cycle advocacy

Alongside and connecting a range of independent specialist disciplinary, regional and language networks

But Does Cycling Research Exist?

Yes and No

Not a separate disciplinary area

- Helpful to focus on cycling and the bicycle in any area of academic study

- Use existing knowledge to shed light on problems raised by practitioners and advocates

Researchers must be aware of difference between academic task and advocacy role. Different audiences require different outputs and communication strategies

Final Thoughts

For academics

- 1. How can cycling be an object of study in your current area of analysis: how might you use cycling as a case study in what you teach? (research)
- 2. How might your existing research and knowledge inform the processes of bicycle advocacy (knowledge transfer)

Final Thoughts

For Practitioners

Where are the knowledge gaps? Has what you are doing been tested against similar practice

Networks enable you to find out rapidly what knowledge is available – if there are existing answers or best practice to draw on

For specific local issues, research can be commissioned or partnerships established to apply for external funding

Evaluation is vital

Thank You – Keep Riding

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